

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 OIC-04 AID-20 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03

H-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 AGR-20 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10 RSR-01 /207 W

----- 107291

R 021710Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2309

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 07599

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR:ECRP:XX

SUBJECT: SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL

BEGIN SUMMARY. SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION OF IWC CONCLUDED JUNE 28 WITH DECISION TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO UNDERTAKE PREPARATORY WORK FOR EXTENSION OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT, 1971 FOR TWO YEARS. COUNCIL ALSO AUTHORIZED RELEASE OF FORECAST OF WHEAT OUTLOOK FOR CROP YEAR 1973/74 INDICATING POTENTIAL WHEAT EXPORT AVAILABILITIES WOULD FALL CONSIDERABLY SHORT OF IMPORT DEMAND. END SUMMARY.

1. IN FINAL DAY OF 66TH MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL (IWC), AGREEMENT REACHED THAT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY WOULD WORK WITH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP DRAFT INSTRUMENTS LOOKING TOWARD EXTENSION OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT (IWA) DUE TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 1974 FOR ANOTHER TWO YEARS. US AS DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENT FOR IWA WILL BE CALLED UPON TO RENDER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN DRAFTING APPROPRIATE INSTRUMENTS. THESE WILL BE SUBMITTED TO IWC FOR FINAL DECISION IN NOVEMBER AS TO

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WHETHER TO RECOMMEND ACCEPTANCE BY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS.

IF DECISION IS POSITIVE, PROTOCOL WILL BE OPENED FOR
SIGNATURE NO LATER THAN MID-MARCH 1974.

2. DURING DISCUSSIONS, A DOZEN OR SO COUNTRIES EXPRESSED
SUPPORT FOR IDEA OF EXTENDING IWA, THOUGH FIRST CHOICE
IF TIME PERMITTED WOULD BE NEGOTIATION OF NEW AGREEMENT
INCORPORATING PRICE PROVISIONS AND PURCHASE AND SUPPLY
OBLIGATIONS. ONLY EEC AND US REFRAINED FROM INDICATING
SUPPORT FOR EXTENSION OF IWA. OTHER DECISIONS BY IWC
WERE:

3. WHEAT FORECAST - SECRETARIAT AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE ON
OR ABOUT JULY 3 FORECAST OF L973/74 WHEAT EXPORT AVAIL-
ABILITIES AT LEVEL QUOTE SUBSTANTIALLY SHORT OF PRESENTLY
PROJECTED REQUIREMENTS. END QUOTE. OWING TO US AND
INDIAN DELEGATION EFFORTS, FORECAST WILL BE CONSIDERABLY
LESS ALARMIST THAN ORIGINAL VERSION WHICH SHOWED
ESTIMATED SHORTFALLS VARYING UP TO 21 MILLION TONS.
CANADIAN DELEGATION WHILE ADMITTING CROP PROSPECTS IN
CANADA WERE MORE FAVORABLE THAN INDICATED IN ORIGINAL
DRAFT BY SUB-COMMITTEE ON MARKET CONDITIONS INSISTED ON
KEEPING LOW-SIDE FIGURES IN FINAL REPORT. USSR DELEGA-
TION VOLUNTEERED NO NEW INFORMATION. INDIAN DELEGATE
ASSERTED INDIA WOULD NOT IMPORT MORE THAN 2 TO TWO AND
ONE-HALF MILLION TONS OF WHEAT IN 1973/74.

4. HARMONIZATION OF SECRETARIAT'S PAY AND ALLOWANCES:
COUNCIL AGREED TO BRING PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF SECRETARIAT
INTO LINE WITH THOSE OF OTHER LONDON-BASED INTERNATIONAL
COMMODITY ORGANIZATIONS. MOVE WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED
BY JAPAN, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, USSR, BRAZIL, SWITZERLAND

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AGR-20 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /207 W

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AND ARGENTINA. US DELEGATION OBSERVED CONSENSUS SEEMED TO HAVE EMERGED AND NOTED CAREFUL AND THOROUGH DOCUMENTATION SUPPLIED BY SECRETARIAT.

5. BUDGET: DRAFT BUDGET CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT CL66/10 ACCEPTED WITHOUT COMMENT OR DISSENT. EXPENDITURES BUDGET AMOUNTS TO POUNDS STERLING 148,310, MEMBERS' ASSESSMENTS TOTAL POUNDS STERLING 140,000 OR POUNDS STERLING 70 PER VOTE, US SHARE OF ASSESSMENT BUDGET IS POUNDS STERLING 19,740.

6. NEW OFFICERS: WILLIAM MINER OF CANADA WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN FOR 1973/74 AND H. P. KELLER OF SWITZERLAND WAS ELECTED VICE CHAIRMAN.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: EXPORTERS GROUP WILL CONSIST OF US, USSR, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA; IMPORTERS GROUP WILL CONSIST OF ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT, BRAZIL, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, INDIA, JAPAN, PORTUGAL, SOUTH AFRICA AND SWITZERLAND.

8. ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE ON MARKET CONDITIONS: SUB-UNCLASSIFIED
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COMMITTEE WILL BE VIRTUALLY SAME AS LAST YEAR.

9. WHEAT MARKET FORECASTS: COUNCIL AUTHORIZED FORECASTING WORK TO CONTINUE ON REGULAR BASIS WITH FORECAST TO BECOME REGULAR FEATURE OF ANNUAL REPORT.

LO. REDISTRIBUTION OF VOTES: IMPORTERS GROUP REDISTRIBUTED VOTES TO ACCORD WITH SHARES OF WORLD WHEAT TRADE CORRESPONDING TO EEC AFTER ENLARGEMENT. ELIMINATION OF INTRA-EEC TRADE LOWERS EEC VOTES AND ASSESSMENTS TO LESS THAN A THIRD OF IMPORTERS' GROUP AND RAISES VOTES AND ASSESSMENTS OF OTHER IMPORTERS.

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